



# The Alabamian

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## UM undergrads volunteer for the eighth annual Big Event

By SAVANNAH BARTON



The University's Environmental Club aids the community by cleaning the Cahaba Wildlife Refuge.



Photo by Savannah Barton

On the morning of Saturday, April 7, the University of Montevallo participated in its eighth annual installment of The Big Event, the campus's largest community service project.

At UM, over one-fifth of undergraduate students participate each year, completing between 30 and 40 community service jobs.

The day kicked off with guest speaker Dr. Jim Day, UM professor of history, thanking the crowd of students for their participation and quoting from Will Allen

Dromgoole's poem, "The Bridge Builder."

This year, approximately 580 students participated. Organizations that partook in the day's projects included members of Greek Life, the Residence Hall Association, Student Publications, UM Athletics and various other clubs.

One such group was the Environmental Science Club, or E-Club, who traveled 20 minutes to the Cahaba Wildlife Refuge. There, they joined another group

with the same determination to clean the river by collecting cigars, picking up shattered glass and bullet casings, as well as gathering articles of clothing.

Other jobs completed that Saturday include window cleaning, painting, yard work and more. Any task a Montevallo community member needed assistance with was met with vigor from student volunteers.

After cleaning for a few hours, participants of The Big Event regrouped at Farmer Hall to enjoy

food and drinks provided by Chartwells. Participants used the time to trade stories about their experience volunteering.

The Big Event got its start in 1982 when Joe Nussbaum, then vice president of SGA at Texas A&M, sought to give thanks to the University's surrounding community in a one-day blowout of service projects. The event has since grown to become not only the largest one-day, student-run community service project in Montevallo, but in the nation.

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

By MAGGIE SANDERSON

Though in its modern interpretation, April 20 is synonymous with friendly potheads celebrating the mind-altering powers of cannabis, the events up until now that define April 20 have been a lot less mundane, and much more sinister.

Adolf Hitler's birth in the year 1889, is a popular example of the tone set by many of this day's catastrophic events. Among some others include: the beginning of the Spanish-American war in 1898, The Ludlow Massacre in 1914 where 19 died, The Columbine School Massacre in 1999, The Deepwater Horizon oil spill in 2010 and a number of plane crashes and bombings since.

On the positive side, a few good events have taken place on April 20, such as the earliest recorded performance of "Macbeth" at the Globe Theater in 1611, Harriet Tubman's foundation of the Underground Railroad in 1853 and the release of "Annie Hall" in 1977. Like all days in history, April 20 contains some events that are great, and others that we'd rather see weeded out.

## Zuckerberg Testifies before a joint session of Congress

By WAID JONES



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg testifies before the Senate Judiciary and Commerce Committees on Capitol Hill.

Photo by Oliver Douliery

In a joint session of the Senate Commerce and Judiciary Committees, senators questioned Mark Zuckerberg, CEO of Facebook, about his company's information sharing practices and the data firm Cambridge Analytica. Senate leaders attempted to understand the social media giant's place in an ever growing and complicated market, and determine if legislative measures are needed to protect social media users' privacy and data. Legislators also began to examine what those measures might look like.

Lawmakers attempted to wade through the complex definition of Facebook throughout Zuckerberg's testimony. Individual Senators defined the platform differently and therefore focused their questioning on varying aspects of the social media giant's business model.

By the end of the testimony the legislators appeared to split into a few camps based on their definitions of Facebook. Some believed the platform to be for the distribution of media and ads, others a social connection

platform and still others seeing Facebook as something completely different.

Zuckerberg argued that the social media giant was, in fact, a communication tool.

"As Facebook has grown, people everywhere have gotten a powerful new tool for staying connected to the people they love, and for building communities and powerful new businesses," the CEO said of his company, later reinforcing this by emphasizing large fundraising efforts after Hurricane Harvey and how, "more than 70 million small businesses use Facebook to create jobs and grow."

The seemingly rudimentary questions that many of the legislators were asking showed that the lawmakers were trying to understand and identify the problems which can surround how data is handled on social media.

Most of the legislature's questions revolved around data security within Facebook, with Cambridge Analytica's ability to gain access to 87 million user's data bringing this issue to the forefront, as well as the implications of how data being used for ad development coincides with a user's privacy.

Democratic Senator Dick

Durbin of Illinois noted the importance of this privacy when he asked Zuckerberg if he would be willing to tell everyone the hotel he stayed at last night, or the people he messages, or any of the personal details of his life. After Zuckerberg jokingly refused the Senator had this to say, "I think that might be what this is all about — your right to privacy, the limits of your right to privacy, and how much you'd give away in modern America," said Durbin.

Many other Senators mirrored Durbin's stance while including personal anecdotes and attempting to simplify the information even further, with Senator Bill Nelson D-FL equating personal messaging data being used in targeting advertisements to his love of chocolate.

Senator Lindsey Graham, a Republican from South Carolina, while holding up Facebook's lengthy terms of service agreement, which every user is required to agree to before using the company's services, asked Zuckerberg if he believed every user actually read the agreement and knew what they were signing up for and how their data was being used.

"I don't think that the average person likely reads that whole document," Zuckerberg admitted of the company's terms of service,

going on however to mention that the company attempts to intuitively explain key pieces of the agreement every time a Facebook user makes a post.

Congress is expected to bring more social media focused privacy legislation in the days to come after Zuckerberg's testimony, possibly modeled off of the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation, which greatly increases a user's rights to know what data a company is keeping about them. This is important to realize as Zuckerberg made it clear he would not block any legislation that he felt clearly, "correctly addressed the problem."

As both Zuckerberg and lawmakers seemed willing to work on a comprehensive solution to protect user's data within the US, stock prices of the social media giant rose 4.5% during the testimony, showing a significant growth after the company's stock had experienced major setbacks earlier in the week.

For more coverage and transcripts of portions of Zuckerberg's testimony you can go to [thealabamian.com](http://thealabamian.com) where our staff has compiled more of the most interesting things that were learned during Zuckerberg's testimony.

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# Urinetown: just crazy enough to work

By GEORDIE KENNEDY

The University of Montevallo Theater Department finished off the theater season Friday, April 13 with the opening of *Urinetown*, *The Musical*. Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis’ utterly bizarre production graced the Reynolds stage with a tale of inequality in an ailing environment centering around a rather unusual focal point; urine.

Overall, the play follows the story of a greatly economically disparate town in the near future. After a 20 year drought, water shortages have largely removed the presence of private bathrooms and replaced them with outrageously priced paid public facilities. This unusual premise is first introduced at the play’s outset by the character of Officer Lockstock, played by Blake Anthony Lovelace. Lockstock serves as not only a minor villain in the form of the oppressive chief of police, but more importantly as an ongoing narrator. Largely flippant about the fourth wall and often acknowledging the fact that he and the other characters are in a musical, Lockstock and the character of Little Sally, played by Madison Johnson, take the first of many

jobs at the modern musical present throughout the play.

Lockstock and his partner Officer Barrell, portrayed by Zach Tarwater, work as the enforcement for the draconian public urination laws. The punishment for breaking these laws is exile to the mysterious and ostensibly terrible Urinetown, an ongoing vague threat to the majority of characters.

Soon enough, the main plotline establishes itself. The audience is introduced to Bobby Strong, an assistant attendant at the public accommodation. Strong, played by Alex Belli is portrayed as an incredibly average “head in the clouds” male protagonist.

After being forced to send his own father off to the mysterious Urinetown for flagrant public urination, Strong is only momentarily despondent. Much in the fashion of a fast paced modern musical, Bobby’s interest shifts wildly to the sight of a young woman lost by the public accommodation. The mysterious character, played by Brice Armstrong, is Hope Cladwell, and Strong is instantly and completely smitten.

The focus of the play follows

Hope to the offices of her father, Caldwell B. Cladwell, the main antagonist of the show. Isaac Webster’s portrayal of Cladwell is that of a comically ruthless and self centered businessman and head of Urine Good Company, the corrupt organization paying off the local legislator, Senator Fipp, played by Jonathan Everheart. With the premise established, a moment of despondency turns sharply into a clandestine, romantic nighttime meeting with Hope. After a romantic, albeit cheesy, romantic musical number, Bobby is moved to action. Turning on his superiors and taking control of the public accommodation, the revolution which drives much of the plot ensues.

If its concept is any indication, *Urinetown* is a decidedly surreal experience. Audience members are thrown through an incredibly fast paced and multi-layered post-modern extravaganza. *Urinetown* time and time again lampoons the strange tropes of the modern musical, such as too tightly focused plot or heavy handed, directionless metaphors.

While the plot of *Urinetown* presents a massive amount of

information to the audience in a short amount of time, the story is not necessarily difficult to follow. Plus the frankly blunt narration from officer Lockstock maintains a simple thread to follow in a whirlwind of a play.

Perhaps the most important note to come out of *Urinetown* is the careful balance that the performance maintains. Between tight blocking, clean dialogue, powerful vocal talent and impressive choreography, *Urinetown* hinges on being carefully unhinged. It could easily be seen that without the amount of obvious diligent work from the theater department, a production such as *Urinetown* would not work nearly as well.

The production was not, however, without flaw. The fast pace left the slower or less memorable parts of the experience lagging. At certain points during the second act, the more exposition heavy portions of the play sacrificed some of the overall momentum. There were times which the primary plot felt like a hurdle to get to such exciting musical numbers as *Run Freedom Run*, a bright and catchy extension of the ludicrousness of the overall play.

While the dialogue was intelligent, fast paced and rich with unusual humor, the true comedy of the play shone through in the music. Such songs as “It’s a Privilege to Pee,” wonderfully performed by guest artist and UM alumna Amy Johnson, juxtaposed a rousing march-like number with the sheer oddity of the play’s plot. Similarly, Webster’s cartoonishly villainous character of Cladwell showed through in all its over the top self proclaimed glory.

By the play’s end, the audience is taken on a journey through the play’s many levels of satire, wit and sheer absurdism. *Urinetown*’s ultimate message within the play on the unsustainability of modern life and uselessness of metaphorical solutions was a jarring stop to the production, reminding the audience of the strange, Brechtian nature of the piece.

Ultimately, *Urinetown* was a delightfully disorienting thrill ride through a multi layered plot handled expertly by UM’s theater department. The play will continue its run throughout the weekend of the April 19, and tickets are on sale to both students and the public.

# Opinion: Thumbs down to counting GVs

By LILY DICKINSON AND MAGGIE SANDERSON



“Afterall, who’s keeping score?” declared Gold Side’s 2018 show narrator, Pearl, to the cheering crowd, an enthusiastic wink and a pair of finger guns accompanying her line. While a clever nod to Gold Side’s tradition of ever-changing hand gestures to mark the year’s attempt at another victory, the act itself seems, in our opinion, to answer the question

asked: Who’s keeping score? We are, Gold Side, we are.

While we are two loyal Golds who both participated to varying extents in both the 2017 and 2018 shows, we can’t help but express confusion at the necessity of doing anything other than the traditional thumbs-up. While we think that the act of keeping score and saying phrases such as “GV2” or

“GV3” is actually pretty fun, and a neat way to inspire each other, we think that the perpetually shifting hand signs is just weird. For incoming Freshman, it must be a little confusing to see all sorts of merchandise for Gold Side decked out with a big thumbs-up, only then to have current Golds holding up a plethora of extra fingers.

Finger guns, “I love you” in sign language, what’s next? What’s to stop this madness? Apparently, a GV11 unless we start going barefoot and counting our toes. So come on Gold Side, lay down your pointer fingers, your pinkies, and all fingers in between. We’ve got thumbs, that should be enough. Let’s give a thumbs, and just thumbs, up for a GV3!

HAVE AN  
OPINION?

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# ‘Ready Player One’: Why did Spielberg’s new blockbuster bum me out so much?

By GARY THOMPSON , THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Steven Spielberg’s “Ready Player One” is competent, occasionally rousing entertainment that nonetheless left me a little bummed.

Bummed that its premise - players enter a video game that favors competitors fluent in 1980s pop culture - means that top-level Hollywood talent has again been deployed to sate our apparently endless appetite for re-consuming stuff we enjoyed 30 years ago.

Our jones for another “Guardians of the Galaxy”/80s fix now makes a conscript of Spielberg, and for that matter Wes Anderson.

How weird is it that talents as diverse and unique as Anderson and Spielberg would roll out movies rife with Atari references on virtually the same day? Or that scenes in “Ready Player One” involving references to John Hughes would so closely follow “Love, Simon,” a modern facsimile of a Hughes movie, scored by a band that was formed to create the sort of music that you might hear in a Hughes movie.

Maybe it’s not so weird in an entertainment industry that now runs on nostalgia. The animating -- and half of the movie is animated -- principle behind “Ready

Player One” is if you’re going to do ‘80s nostalgia, do it right: Spare no expense, make the movie as thickly referential as possible, and have it directed by somebody who was actually there.

I give Spielberg credit for not flogging his own stuff. He pays homage instead to directors like Robert Zemeckis, Stanley Kubrick, John Boorman and others. And he certainly grasps that what retro addicts crave most is a movie that flatters and rewards their worship of trivia and minutia -- a Buckaroo Banzai reference is paired with an Orson Welles reference, which will play especially well for folks who geek out on Buckaroo.

I get it, I feel it, I laughed. And I felt a little less guilty about the 12 hours I’ve spent on the couch watching Jeff Goldblum get duded up to play a cowboy named New Jersey, that’s a Buckaroo reference. But I was unconvinced by the movie’s efforts to convince me that this behavior is virtuous, or emblematic of rebel cool.

That’s certainly implied in “Ready Player One,” wherein a loose association of ragtag gamers enter a virtual realm called Oasis

to win a game where the stakes are high bragging rights, half a trillion dollars, and permanent control of the game, bequeathed by the game’s founder-designer, played by Mark Rylance.

Renegade gamers Wade, Tye Sheridan, and Samantha, Olivia Cooke, and other freelancers, Lena Waithe, Philip Zhao, Win Morisaki, go up against a greedy tech corporation and its honcho Sorrento, Ben Mendelsohn, who hires a giant army of researchers and gamers to do what Wade and Samantha do via individual genius and aptitude.

This conflict leads to a scene in which Sorrento tries to bribe and con Wade into going corporate. He pretends to be a pop-culture geek as researchers feed teen-movie trivia into his ear. Wade immediately senses that Sorrento is not authentic and denounces him as unworthy of winning the game.

In this moment, the movie attempts to redefine consumption and consumerism as rebellion, which is something a greedy tech corporation might do. Or a movie studio whose bag of new ideas is empty.

When Wade’s gang and Sor-

rento’s corporation finally square off, each fighter is represented as his pop-culture avatar, and it’s a melee of branded characters. It reminded me a bit of the finale of “The Lego Movie,” which handled some of the same themes with more humor and sophistication and certainly tried to question the need for adults to remain fixated on the entertainment they enjoyed as children.

When it comes to reliving the past, though, “Ready Player One” is all-in. You’ll note that one of the Oasis cofounders is played by Simon Pegg, king of the retro geeks, who turns up to give the whole thing his solemn benediction, as befits the star and co-writer of “Hot Fuzz” and other odes to 80s pop.

Pegg and Spielberg are talented, brilliant guys, among the most qualified to make time-machine movies -- yes, Bill and Ted are mentioned -- that roll the clock back 30 years.

It would also be nice to see them make original movies that people would reference 30 years from now.



# Trump touts ‘perfectly carried out’ missile strike, but lacks an overall strategy toward Syria

By LAURA KING, TRIBUNE WASHINGTON BUREAU

As President Donald Trump basks in widespread approval for the U.S.-led missile strike aimed at Syrian chemical-weapons installations, the White House still faces a quandary over U.S. policy toward that country's civil war, as well as some sharp questions about the president's war powers.

Trump has yet to articulate a long-term U.S. strategy for dealing with the grinding, multi-sided war in Syria, which has lasted more than seven years, killed hundreds of thousands and triggered an epic refugee crisis.

Only days before the missile attack, Trump had called for a rapid U.S. troop withdrawal from Syria, which critics said would yield control of the country to Russia and Iran, key allies of Syrian President Bashar Assad. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., was among those who said that Trump's words had "emboldened" Assad to use chemical weapons.

Now, though, in a turnabout, Trump is promising to keep troops in Syria, according to France's president. He may also slap new sanctions on Russian companies, according to Nikki Haley, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

Several lawmakers asserted Sunday that the president should have sought congressional approval for the missile strike, launched in response to reports of deadly poison-gas strikes on a rebel-held suburb of Damascus. Congress, however, repeatedly has ducked votes on Syria policy since the fighting began there in March 2011.

But even some people who have expressed vehement public disagreement with Trump's previous actions voiced support for the strike, which was carried out in coordination with Britain and France.

Former CIA Director John Brennan was among those who praised the action as "proportional and necessary to send a signal."

Speaking on "Meet the Press," Brennan, who is now an analyst for NBC, said "the administration's actions against Syria were appropriate \_ and I tend to be a critic of this administration."

In the longer term, though, Brennan said solutions in Syria would likely prove evasive.

"I think we have to continue to put the pressure on the Assad regime, try to hit them when they use chemical weapons, but not get involved in another full-scale war in the Middle East," he said.

Pentagon officials have said that the strike significantly damaged Syria's capacity to research and produce chemical weapons. But they have not claimed the strike eliminated Assad's ability to carry out future chemical attacks.

Some experts have questioned whether any strike like this one would have a real effect on the Syrian government's ability to carry out chemical attacks, let alone affect the overall course of the war.

Faysal Itani, a senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East, said that on the question of whether Assad would be deterred from future chemical strikes, "the most that I can say is 'Maybe.'"

Within the administration, some painted the strike as a possible portent of greater American involvement in the Syrian conflict. Haley warned that renewed use of chemical weapons against Syrian civilians by Assad \_ whose forces have carried out a number of such attacks in the course of the war \_ could trigger further U.S. military action.

"Should he use it again, the president (Trump) has made it very clear that the United States

is locked and loaded and ready to go," Haley said on "Fox News Sunday."

As she and other senior Trump aides are often called upon to do, Haley struck a careful balance between acknowledging what the president has publicly stated and making predictions about future intentions.

Haley acknowledged that Trump's goal is to "see American troops come home." But a pullout would not take place before the militants of Islamic State had been defeated and further use of chemical weapons precluded, she said \_ both prospects that military officials have warned remain far in the future.

"We of course know our work in Syria is not done," she said.

Having secured French and British participation in the missile strike, Trump might be more obliged to heed their counsel on long-term objectives in Syria.

French President Emmanuel Macron said in a broadcast interview Sunday that despite Trump's talk of a U.S. troop withdrawal, "we have convinced him that it is necessary to stay for the long term."

Haley, who has been among the strongest proponents of punishing Russia for its backing for Assad, argued \_ as she has frequently done in the Security Council \_ that Russia shares blame for the chemical attack, even if it had no direct involvement.

To that end, she said, Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin would announce new sanctions Monday against Russian companies with links to the Syrian government's chemical weapons infrastructure.

Sanctions "will go directly to any sort of companies that were dealing with equipment related to Assad and chemical weapons use," she said on CBS' "Face the

Nation."

In the Fox interview, Haley said that "Assad knew that Russia had its back," adding that the Syrian leader "got reckless" in the suspected chemical attack last week in the Damascus suburb of Duma.

The escalation that which the missile strike could presage has generated concerns among some members of Congress.

One of the sharpest critiques came from Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va., who was Hillary Clinton's running mate in the 2016 election.

"President Trump is not a king \_ he's a president," Kaine said on CBS' "Face the Nation," adding that Trump is "supposed to come to Congress to seek permission to initiate a war."

Some of Trump's fellow Republicans also expressed unease over the potential for U.S. escalation in Syria without legislative input. Sen. Joni Ernst of Iowa, a veteran of the Iraq war, supported the strikes but said on NBC's "Meet the Press" that she was "uncomfortable going forward."

Referring to a congressional authorization for the use of military force, she said: "As many of my colleagues have also stated, we need a new AUMF," or Authorization for Use of Military Force.

Trump was seemingly motivated to act, as he had been a year earlier after a similar chemical attack, by images of the lifeless bodies of children said to have been stricken by poison gas. His initial response to the episode faulted Russia for backing Assad.

Russia, however, signaled defiance. A Kremlin statement on Sunday quoted Russian President Vladimir Putin as having told Iranian leader Hassan Rouhani that the missile strike was a violation of the United Nations charter and

that future such actions "will inevitably lead to chaos in international relations."

Some have claimed that Trump chose the timing of the airstrike to dominate the weekend news cycle and distract attention from the charges against him in the new book by fired FBI Director James B. Comey.

If so, Trump undercut that strategy with half a dozen angry tweets Sunday morning in which he branded Comey a liar and seemed to suggest that the ex-lawman belonged in jail. Trump's use of the phrase "Mission Accomplished" in a tweet on Saturday also raised eyebrows, since it is closely associated with former President George W. Bush's premature declaration of victory in Iraq, in 2003.

As became apparent in retrospect, the U.S. mission was far from accomplished. Indeed, U.S. policy at the time helped create a chaotic power vacuum that was filled by civil war in Iraq, greater regional influence for Iran and, eventually, the rise of a jihadist movement that would coalesce into Islamic State.

In a tweet on Sunday morning, however, the president insisted that he was fully aware of the phrase's weighted implications about U.S. miscalculations in the Middle East.

"The Syrian raid was so perfectly carried out, with such precision, that the only way the Fake News Media could demean was by my use of the term 'Mission Accomplished,'" he wrote on Twitter. "I knew they would seize on this but felt it is such a great Military term, it should be brought back."

"Use often!" he added.

## DR. PATTON ARRESTED ON DUI

By WAID JONES

Dr. Michael F. Patton was arrested by the Montevallo Police for driving his golf cart under the influence of alcohol, at the corner of Oak Street and North Boundary Street on the night of April 11. Patton was taken to the Shelby County Sheriff's office where he was processed and released that same night.

Patton, 56, is a professor of philosophy in the University of Montevallo's English and Foreign Language Department, and is the program coordinator for the Philosophy and Religion Minor at UM.

Patton is well known around campus for hosting the Life Raft Debate, as well as having been the co-owner of popular coffee and used book store Eclipse with his wife Cheryl.

This is Patton's second arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol, and the second instance of a UM staff member being arrested for a DUI in the last six months. Earlier this year former University of Montevallo police chief, Chad Adams, resigned after being asked for comment regarding the charge by Shelby County Reporter.

The Alabamian staff reached out to Patton for comment, but he has yet to respond.

# Corals on Great Barrier Reef will never be the same after back-to-back heat waves, scientists say

By AMINA KHAN, LOS ANGELES TIMES



This coral displays pink fluorescing tissue, signaling heat stress.

Photo by Gergley Torda

The Great Barrier Reef suffered a catastrophic die-off after two back-to-back marine heat waves in 2016 and 2017, a new study finds - and many of its reef communities have been fundamentally changed.

The grim discovery, described in the journal Nature, reveals just how vulnerable many coral species are to rising ocean temperatures and shows that these vital habitats will continue to be affected if global warming continues unabated.

Thanks to decades of greenhouse gases released by human activity, global warming has been heating the oceans and impacting the health of marine life around the world. Corals are particularly sensitive, because when the heat

goes up, their symbiotic algae start producing toxic levels of oxygen and the corals have to expel them. After these "bleaching" events, the corals lose their color, and without their symbionts they're vulnerable. Some of them can recover, while others ultimately die.

These losses have implications not just for the corals, but for the species that rely on them. That includes humans, particularly in coastal nations in poorer regions that rely heavily on fishing and fisheries.

Then in 2016, the hottest year in recorded history, an extreme heat wave spread through the world's oceans, triggering bleaching events in many vulnerable reefs.

Lead author Terry Hughes, a coral reef ecologist at James Cook University in Australia, wanted to measure the extent of the damage to the Great Barrier Reef, a rich ecosystem that includes more than 3,860 individual reefs over roughly 1,500 miles. A World Heritage Area, the reef system serves as a crucial habitat for many endangered species.

He and a large team of researchers took boats, airplanes and helicopters low over the ocean to track the Great Barrier Reef's health. They returned again about eight months later around the time of yet another marine heat wave in the region. The scientists found that in combination, the two heat waves had killed about half of the corals

on the Great Barrier Reef. The first event hit the northern third of the reef the hardest, while the second did more damage in the middle third.

While many of the most sensitive corals died immediately from heat exposure, many others died in the months that followed after they had been bleached and then been unable to recover.

"One of the concerns around the coral reef world is that the gap between pairs of bleaching events is shrinking," Hughes said.

That's because corals take a long time to recover after bleaching events - the fastest ones might take a decade, while the slower ones take centuries. In the 1980s and 1990s, when bleaching events happened once every 25 years on average, such communities could recover. Since 2010, Hughes said, the gap has shrunk to just six years. That kind of one-two punch - such as the back-to-back heat waves of 2016 and 2017 - can knock out even the more resilient coral species. This means the coral communities that make up the Great Barrier Reef have already been fundamentally altered, Hughes said. There's no going back to the way it was.

But there's still hope, he added. After all, roughly half of the corals are still alive. If humans stick to keeping rising global temperatures within the limits set by the Paris climate accords, there's a chance for the corals that remain.

"It will recover," Hughes said of the reef system. "The question is, to what?"



## Marcus Moore named 2017-18 Student Employee of the Year

By JAMIE HAAS



Photo by Savannah Barton

"I am so thrilled and honored to be awarded with this achievement and would like to send a huge thank you to the office of Undergraduate Admissions for the wonderful opportunity to hold my position as a Maven," said Moore. Beyond being a student employee, Moore is actively involved with UM's Campus Ministry Association and Gold Side. Moore was officially recognized for this achievement at a luncheon on Thursday, April 12, with a plaque and \$500 check provided by the UMNAA.

larger sizes available



# Tips to thrive during finals week

By KATHERINE PEARCE

Finals week is closer than we like to think it is. So how do you not just survive finals week, but thrive? Here are ten tips for saving you and your grade.

1. Plan Study Times

Don't just say you'll study on Thursday. Instead, say Thursday from 2-4 p.m. I will go to the library and study for biology. Put the times you have designated in your planner. If you don't use a paper planner, put them in your phone with an alarm. Then, hold yourself accountable and study at those times, or have your friends hold you accountable for following your study plan.

2. Remember Three to Five

The best way to study is in 30 to 50 minute intervals. This not only helps you retain information,

but also avoid burnout. So every thirty minutes or so walk around your desk, stretch, or eat a snack. The only thing not to do is sit in your study spot and check your phone. The Facebook rabbit hole is useful to no one during finals week.

3. Small Bites

Have an overwhelming project or a comprehensive exam to study for? Break it down into manageable tasks. Study one chapter at a time for that comprehensive exam. Write out everything you will need to do to finish the project, and start at step one. This only works if you write something other than "finish scary project." The more detailed you can be in your plan, the more productive your work will be.

4. Reading Notes is Useless

In order to learn the information in your notes, reading them more than once or twice will accomplish nothing. Do this instead: Recopy your notes by hand, even if you took them on a computer. Then put them on flash cards or into a quizlet. If you are an auditory learner, Quizlet or other programs will also read your notes to you. Lastly, take notes on your notes. Go through them and identify what you do know and what you need to study further.

5. Get help

If you are having difficulty with subject, do not feel like you have to go it alone. The Learning Enrichment Center at the Library has free tutoring. Another option is to bug a classmate or friend

who is familiar with the subject into helping you study, or set up a group study with friends and all help each other.

6. Ask The Professor

Remember your professors have office hours and emails. Ask them about the final exam or to look over your final paper. While they may not tell you all the test questions, they might be able to give more information, and it will let them know you are serious about the class. If you need to camp out in a professor's office hours to do well in the class, that's what they are there for.

7. Review Daily


Yes, review your notes, flash-cards, quizlet or the paper you have taped to your mirror daily.

8. Eat




Eating a healthy, balanced diet is always important, but especially so during finals. But with flex dollars running low that can be a little difficult. One suggestion is to ask your parents or grandparents for food. Tell your mother how much you miss her lasagna and she might just send you some.

9. Don't Over Do It

Notice I said there would be ten tips on how to study for finals. There's not, because one important thing is knowing how to have limits. Remember to sleep, eat, and go for a walk. Study hard and do your best, but remember to take care of yourself too.

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PLAYLIST



FUN IN THE SUN

**“Margaritaville” - Jimmy Buffett**  
Suitcase? Packed. Sunglasses? On. Margarita? In-hand. This relaxed number might just be the quint-essential beachgoer tune as Buffett croons about the idyllic land of Margaritaville, where one’s only worry is a lost shaker of salt.

**“Ocean Man” - Ween**  
Ocean man can bring to mind a number of memories. Whether it’s the end credits of “The Sponge-bob Movie” or its life as a surreal meme, Ween’s hit sets a chilled out, albeit bizarre mood for any summer trip.

**“Gold in the Summertime” - Matt Nathanson**  
This song strikes at the heart of summertime vacationers. The upbeat horn and sunny lyrics will undoubtedly put listeners in an inescapably good mood, truly a first-day-of-summer anthem.

**“Good Vibrations” - The Beach Boys**  
A timeless classic from the ultimate in beach fun, The Beach Boys. “Good Vibrations” does exactly as its title advertises, sending out undeniably good vibes. The song reflects a certain air of an afternoon beach party at Summer’s height.

**“Life’s a Beach” - Heymous Molly**  
Catchy and recognizable, Heymous Molly captures the light feeling of the height of a Summer day. With an infectious beat and steel drums to boot, “Life’s a Beach” takes the feeling of Summer vacation to the whole year. With this song playing, life truly is a beach.

**“Townie” - Mitski**  
For those of us who won’t be making a trip down to the beach this summer, Mitski delivers this road trip ready tune. Best enjoyed with a car full of friends, “Townie” packs in fun and youthful energy, with a chorus perfect for singing along to with the windows down.

**“Escape (The Pina Colada Song)” - Rupert Holmes**  
The story of two lovers whose dreams of tropi-cal destinations (and drinks) both tear them apart and bring them back together again is the focus of this late 70s tune; and, it’s those tropical aspirations that make this song a perfect fit for any summer playlist.

**“Rio” - MIKA**  
A song of new beginnings, Mika’s “Rio” takes a forceful and excited approach to a vacation. The song’s upbeat tone pairs wonderfully with the life changing optimism of summertime and the end of an academic year.

**“Summertime” - The Mowgli’s**  
Most of us are familiar with the concept of summer love, but this vibrant tune takes it to the next level. Sweet, romantic and with just the right amount of twangy guitar, The Mowgli’s deliver a delightful ode to the summer fling.

**“Under the Sea” - The Little Mermaid cast**  
The Disney classic “Under the Sea” is an undeniable, nearly universal feel good piece. Since childhood we have jammed out to the fun and carefree sounds of The Little Mermaid, and no song is better suited for this playlist of beachy jams.

# Fashion on the bricks: scholarly style

By LILY DICKINSON and MAGGIE SANDERSON

Students here at Montevallo can certainly relate to the urge to wear sloppy, slouchy styles, especially as finals approach, but there are certain people on campus who never let their fashion falter. Who are these fashionistas with fortitude? Our professors, of course!

Two of these persevering professors are Dr. Tiffany Wang and Dr. Cathlena Martin. Dr. Wang, a professor in the Department of Communication, is known for her cute outfits that are fitting for her outgoing and kind personality.

“I aim for a professional yet approachable style in both my clothes and my teaching. I like

to strike a balance between being respected and relatable,” Dr. Wang said of her wardrobe: “I try to pick colors and patterns that reflect my personality. I tend to mix traditional and timeless silhouettes and pieces with a fun and trendy accessory, or piece, that is of the moment.”

Dr. Wang’s favorite pieces are ever-changing throughout the year. “It depends on the season of course, but business dresses, pencil skirts, boots, blazers, sweaters, pumps, and scarves are my go to work pieces.”

Dr. Martin also has favorite pieces to wear, though occasion-

ally she finds campus to be a bit hazardous, “I love a great pair of heels, but since I eat in the caf almost every day for lunch, I am wary of wearing them because of the bricks.”

“Numerous studies have shown that what we wear impacts our mental state and our physical performance, an effect I have seen referred to as enlothed cognition,” Dr. Martin noted when asked about how her fashion reflects who she is.

Dr. Martin, is the director of the Honors Program and a professor of games studies and design and said, “What I want to project

is someone casual but professional, so that my foundational lectures in jeans and a blazer are supplemented with unique activities in a knockout dress or a fun necklace.”

Dr. Martin offered up good advice on professional wear for any graduating seniors about to enter the job market, “Most fashion experts will tell you to invest in a few key pieces.”

These pieces which Martin described as, “classic and timeless,” are simple items, often described as basics, that will never go out of style, a white shirt, your favorite pair of jeans, or black trousers, Martin says, “can form the foun-

dation of your wardrobe.” “Similarly,” Martin noted, “a good professor also has a solid and timeless foundation for their classroom: they are well organized, they are an expert in their subject matter, and they seek to engage their students.”

Martin went on to say that that fashion and teaching are very similar, with pops of color and statement pieces are similar to when professors are, “trying out new activities or assignments to enliven the class further.”



Dr. Martin (left) and Dr. Wang (right) showcase their professional attire.



Photo courtesy of Maggie Jo Benson

Photo courtesy of University Relations





Warm weather on April 4 brought a number of students to Main Quad for the annual Housing and Residence Life Luau. The event featured a number of attractions for all visitors, including water pong and cornhole tournaments for pre-registered teams. Other students enjoyed attractions such as t-shirt tie dying. The event took donations from visitors for the University of Montevallo Food Pantry in exchange for prizes.

